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Information for Immigrants

CONCERNING

The United States

ITS OPPORTUNITIES

* GOVERNMENT *

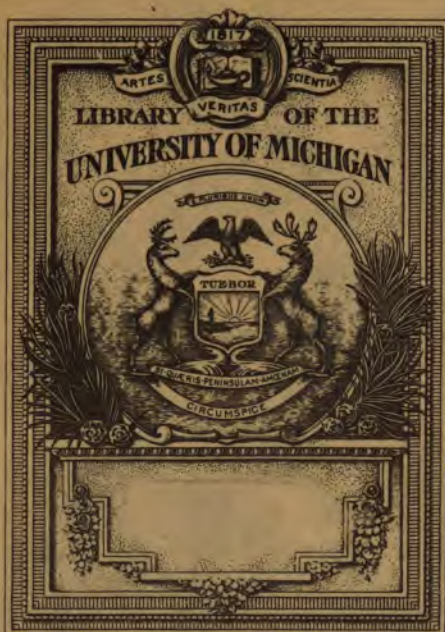
AND INSTITUTIONS

Prepared by the National Society of the Sons of
the American Revolution



WASHINGTON :- GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1908



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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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THE UNITED STATES:

ITS OPPORTUNITIES, GOVERNMENT, AND INSTITUTIONS.



The person who leaves the land in which he was born, and goes to another to make his home, wants to know the truth about a number of things in the land to which he goes.

To give such information this is prepared, not by any set of men who are interested in availing themselves of your labor or seeking to get your money, but by a society which has for its object the teaching to all of a love of country, and is composed of the descendants of the men to whom the United States owes its existence as a distinct government. This society is called the Sons of the American Revolution.

The questions which most of those who come to the United States want to know something about are as follows:

1. What are the opportunities which are open to the foreigner to work for a salary or wages which will pay him well?
2. Is it or not true that anyone can become rich in this country?
3. What about the religion of this country?

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4. Can children obtain a better education here than in the land from which I have come?

5. What is the liberty about which I have heard so much?

6. In a general way how is the country governed?

7. How far will it be possible for me or for my children to have something to do with the government of the country?

Here are the answers:

1. The people of the United States are all workers in one way or another. There is no noble class which does not work. Everyone who comes here to make his home is expected to work in one way or another. There is work to be done on the farms, in the mines, in the mills and factories, on the railroads, in the cities, and each and all of these will give you a fair compensation for the work you do. But you must not expect that you will be paid without working.

2. While there are many in this country who are rich, and who have become rich as the result of their own labor and saving, there are also many more who are poor, and who always will be poor. The possibility of becoming rich is open to all, but that condition will come only as the result of labor and industry and habits of economy. It is therefore dependent upon yourself and on no one else whether you become rich or continue poor.

3. There is no State religion. That means that the Government does not pay for the support of any priests or ministers, and there is no tax laid upon the people to maintain any church. The country is a Christian country in the sense that the largest number

of the people here believe in the religion of Christ; but anyone, Jew or Christian, is free to worship God according to the particular form of religion in which he believes, limited only to the extent that such worship does not involve immoral practices or make itself offensive to others.

4. There is no country in which it is as easy for the young to obtain an education. In most places all children between certain ages are required to attend school in order that they may learn, and as a rule the education can be obtained without cost, the expense of the schools being paid by the State, because the people of the United States believe that the better the children are educated the better citizens they will make, and the more able they will be to earn good wages and so take better care of themselves and their families.

5. Liberty does not mean that anyone can do whatever he pleases. No one is permitted to steal, kill, cheat, or defraud another. By liberty is meant that so long as a person obeys the laws of the country, which are made by the people, he is free to follow such calling as he chooses; to worship God in such form as he believes to be the best; to be protected in his person from assault by others or imprisonment by officials; and to be protected in the possession and enjoyment of any property which may be honestly his.

This country is one of law, and those laws are made by men chosen by the people, and everyone, rich or poor, high or low, powerful or weak, is governed by the same law and protected by the same law. The President of this country must obey that law just the same as you will be required to obey it.

